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ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Senior Public Health Inspector

For the Year ended 31st December, 1961

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
9, LADY BANK,
TAMWORTH.

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HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Councillor P. J. Dix, Chairman.
Councillor A. Marriott, Vice-Chairman.

Alderman T. H. Clifford	Alderman H. V. Powell
,, E. A. Courts	,, R. M. Turner
Councillor E. Collins (Mayor)	Councillor L. H. Spooner
,, S. Munn, Senr.	,, L. A. Turner
,, Mrs. Mugleston	,, R. W. F. Walton

Medical Officer of Health :

A. Blench, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

H. Birchwood, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.,
Cert. Insp. of Meat and Foods.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

R. E. Williams, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.
(Commenced 27th May, 1961)

Health Visitors and School Nurses:

Miss E. M. E. Hagstrom, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
(Resigned 30th April, 1961)
Miss E. Forrester, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
(Commenced 1st May, 1961)

Mrs. W. Clements, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS

OF THE BOROUGH OF TAMWORTH

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report on the health of the Borough, and on the work of the Health Department, for the year 1961. The information for this report has been collected from many sources, by the Health Department, and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking those other Officers of the Council, and other sources outside the Council, for their co-operation.

The Health Statistics remain, in general, satisfactory when compared to previous years, except that the Infant Mortality Rate at 32.1 shows a marked increase. However, it will be appreciated that when dealing with such small numbers, an increase of two or three deaths can double the Infant Mortality Rate. This was counterbalanced by a fall in the overall Death Rate at 13.5. Once more, no deaths were attributable to childbirth. The Birth Rate was 13.7.

There was a big increase during the year, in cases of notifiable infectious diseases, which amounted to 366. Of these 341 were Measles, a higher number than at any time during the past 10 years, as will be seen in a Table in the Body of the Report. There were no cases of Poliomyelitis and no cases of Food Poisoning during the year.

1961 saw the beginning of the new Leyfields Housing Project, the first phase of which will consist of 850 houses. Of these, 160 have been allocated for the re-housing of people from unfit houses in the Borough, and work was begun on the Representation of some of the worst of these.

I take this opportunity of thanking all Members and Officers of the Council and Health Department for their continued help and co-operation during 1961.

A. BLENCH,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1961

Area in Acres	2,678
Registrar General's estimate of resident population ...	13,590
(Census, 1961)	13,555
(Census, 1951)	12,889
(Census, 1931)	11,711
(Census, 1921)	8,032
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1961) according to Rate Books	4,247
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1951)	3,688
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1931)	2,785
Persons per Acre	5.0
Rateable Value—April, 1961	£184,728
Product of 1d Rate (Estimated 1961/62)	£753

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births—

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate ...	177	88	89
Illegitimate ...	10	6	4
	187	94	93

Birth Rate 13.7

Still Births—

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate ...	4	2	2
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
	4	2	2

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 3

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... 20.9

Deaths from all Causes

	Total.	Male.	Female.
	184	93	91

Death Rate per 1,000 Population 13.5

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate ...	6	5	1
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
	6	5	1

Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks of Age

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate ...	5	4	1
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
	5	4	1

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age

All Infants per 1,000 live births 32.1

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 33.9

VITAL STATISTICS

The following table shows how the Statistics for 1961 compare with those for the preceding five years.

Year	Estimated Population	Live Birth Rate	Still Birth Rate	Infant Death Rate	Death Rate
1956	13,350	15.8	23.0	19.0	15.6
1957	13,350	13.6	26.7	38.4	13.9
1958	13,370	13.7	41.8	21.8	13.2
1959	13,430	14.5	57.9	20.5	11.3
1960	13,600	16.6	21.5	13.2	14.2
1961	13,590	13.7	20.9	32.0	13.5

CAUSES OF DEATH

The following table shows the causes of death of persons ordinarily resident in the Borough who died during 1961, with deaths for the previous five years also shown for purposes of comparison:—

	Total 1956	Total 1957	Total 1958	Total 1959	Total 1960	1961		
						Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory ..	1	3	—	1	—	1	—	1
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	8	7	5	2	5	4	2	6
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bonchus	4	4	3	4	9	3	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	2	—	3	1	3	—	5	5
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ..	22	23	14	6	17	11	8	19
Leukæmia, aleukæmia ..	1	—	1	2	3	—	—	—
Diabetes	1	4	1	—	1	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	37	30	20	33	34	11	13	24
Coronary disease, angina ..	16	21	24	29	27	11	8	19
Hypertension with heart disease	6	3	—	—	2	—	1	1
Other heart disease	31	27	22	17	19	6	11	17
Other circulatory disease ..	9	8	23	7	14	8	11	19
Influenza	2	5	1	5	2	3	4	7
Pneumonia	7	5	10	13	14	4	12	16
Bronchitis	16	15	7	3	8	7	2	9
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	1
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	3	3	3	2	1	2	—	2
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhœa	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis ..	1	1	3	1	1	—	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate ..	2	2	3	1	—	1	—	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ..	2	2	1	—	—	2	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	25	16	21	15	20	12	9	21
Motor vehicle accidents ..	—	2	5	2	6	2	1	3
All other accidents ..	8	—	3	2	3	1	1	2
Suicide	1	2	2	3	1	2	1	3
Homicide & operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals, all causes ..	209	186	177	152	193	93	91	184

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, notified during the year, and also shows, for comparison, the number of cases notified in each of the preceding ten years:—

Disease	Total 1951	Total 1952	Total 1953	Total 1954	Total 1955	Total 1956	Total 1957	Total 1958	Total 1959	Total 1960	Total 1961
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	21	50	21	7	—	2	4	7	7	2	2
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	12	8	16	9	11	12	9	8	5	4	5
Erysipelas	7	4	5	2	5	1	—	1	3	3	4
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	2	—	7	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	100	10	58	54	22	12	5	29	4	9	7
Measles	270	101	76	1	302	—	94	146	8	30	341
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Totals	411	175	181	73	342	29	120	191	27	48	359

FOOD POISONING

Food Poisoning Notifications (corrected) returned to R.G.

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
—	—	—	—

Total, —

Outbreaks due to Identified Agents:
Total outbreaks, Nil. Total Cases, Nil.
Outbreaks of Undiscovered Cause:
Total outbreaks, Nil. Total Cases, Nil.
Single Cases:
Agent identified, Nil. Unknown causes, Nil. Total, Nil.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

	Born in 1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1952-56	1947-51	Total
(a) Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation during 1961 ...	46	121	20	5	8	137	121	458
(b) Number of children who received a reinforcing injection during 1961 ...	—	—	1	6	13	468	824	1,312

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

Number of children who received a primary course of pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) during 1961	65	15	1	—	—	3	—	84

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

	(Age) Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 & over	Total
Vaccination ...	9	3	5	3	8	28
Re-vaccination ...	—	—	—	—	2	2

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

Figures relating to individual districts within the Area are not available as records are kept in a form most convenient for County and Ministry Returns. The following information may, however, be of interest to you.

Total number of persons in the Area who had completed a primary course of injections at 31/12/61, was 49,928.

Total number of boosters (3rd injections) given ...	30,882
Total number of 4th injections given	577
Estimated population of Area (Mid. 1961)	132,550
Estimated population of Tamworth M.B. (Mid. 1961) ...	13,590

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1961

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1–5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5–15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15–25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25–35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35–45	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45–55	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
55–65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	3	3	1	—	1	—	—	—
	6		1		1		—	

HOUSING

The following table gives details of the Council's post-war housing programmes.

	Fazeley Road		Amington Road		Gillway		Bolehall Estate		Lichfield Street		Bolebridge Street		Leyfields	
	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Flats Allocated	No. of Flats Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed
1947	66	42	52	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1948	40	24	52	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1949	60	2	—	78	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1950	84	76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1951	—	106	—	—	146	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1952	—	—	—	—	156	114	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1953	—	—	—	—	102	192	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1954	—	—	—	—	100	92	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1955	—	—	—	—	—	86	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1956	6	6	—	—	21	30	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1957	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1958	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	68	—	76	—	—	—
1959	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	68	—	76	—	—
1960	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1961	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	850	2
	256	256	104	104	525	525	12	12	68	68	76	76	850	2

Housing Applications:

List at 1st January, 1961—	Householders.	Lodgers.	Total
Applicants residing in the Borough	180	232	412
Applicants residing outside Borough	218	186	404
	398	418	816

List at 31st December, 1961—			
Applicants residing in the Borough	234	232	466
Applicants residing outside Borough	228	221	449
	462	453	915

HOSPITALS

All hospitals in the Borough are included in the Lichfield, Sutton Coldfield and Tamworth Group under the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board and are as follows :—

Tamworth General Hospital.

St. Editha's Hospital.

Tamworth Isolation Hospital.

MATERNITY ACCOMMODATION

No maternity accommodation is provided at the Hospitals in the Borough.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES

These are under the County Council (except Tuberculosis and Orthopædic Clinics) since the 5th July, 1948.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held twice weekly.

A Chiropody Clinic is held weekly.

A Speech Therapy Clinic is held weekly.

A School Clinic is held weekly.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is held weekly.

Eye Clinics are held fortnightly.

Dental Clinics are held weekly for expectant and nursing mothers, toddlers and school children.

An Orthopædic Clinic is held weekly at the College Lane Schools.

A Chest Clinic is held at St. Editha's Hospital.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

An ambulance is stationed at Tamworth and is available during the daytime. The Lichfield ambulance is available at all other times.

WATER SUPPLY

Source of Supply.—Well and bore hole at Hopwas Pumping Station. South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

Gallons Pumped during 1961. — 214,059,000 Gallons. Received from South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, 149,274,000.

Well.—Highest, 7ft. 6in.; Lowest, 1ft.

Treatment Before Distribution.—The supply is chlorinated en route to the high level reservoir at Hopwas, and the bulk supply from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company is chlorinated at source.

All dwelling houses in the Borough have a piped supply, either direct into the house or by means of standpipes.

Approximate number of houses supplied:—

(a) Direct to houses		Population
4223	... ...	13,590
(b) By means of Standpipes		
24	... ...	76

Rainfall.—The Rainfall for the year 1961 was 20.89in.

With the assistance of the bulk supply from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, it was possible to give a continuous supply to all consumers throughout the year, at pressures ranging from 30lbs. to 80lbs.

During the year eight samples of water have been obtained by the Health Department from domestic supplies in various parts of the Borough and submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination.

The results were satisfactory. The water is not plumbo solvent. There is a fairly high degree of hardness.

OPEN-AIR SWIMMING BATHS

Routine samples were taken during the summer months when the baths were open. Bacteriological analyses were all satisfactory. " Break-point " chlorination was used.

These baths are a very valuable health asset to the Borough and are well patronised.

Labelling of Food Order, 1953.
Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The following samples were obtained in the Borough by the County Sampling Officers :

MILK

Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	8
Pasteurised	7
Sterilised	4

All were genuine except one pasteurised 4% deficient in fat.

GENERAL FOODS AND DRUGS

Thirty-five samples were taken and all proved "genuine."

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

HOUSING

Work commenced on the building of 850 housing units on the Leyfields Estate and were allocated as follows:—

Birmingham Overspill	...	560
Slum Clearance ...	...	160
General housing needs	...	130
		850

Housing inspections have been carried out in preparation for the making of clearance areas, to take up the allocation of houses for slum clearance. Whilst certain areas have been defined, the Council have in mind schemes for the re-development of the areas, and the final procedure under the Housing Act, 1957, is awaited.

Housing Repairs and Rent Act, 1954.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

Twenty-seven applications were received for grants to improve properties, 24 of these were for Standard Grants.

Rent Act, 1957.

No applications for certificates of disrepair were received during the year.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The number of types of closet accommodation existing at the end of the year is as follows—

No. of Houses	No. of Privies	No. of Pails	No. of Water Closets	Per cent. Dry	Per cent. Water Closets
4,247	6	34	5,190	0.9	99.1

The privy and pail type of closet are in the rural parts of the Borough where no sewer is available.

There are approximately 20 premises served by a system of drainage discharging to cesspools.

INSPECTIONS

The following statement shows the number of visits and inspections to various classes of premises.

Visits and Inspections	Number
Inspection of drains of old property	8
Other inspections of existing property	164
To work in progress	198
,, test drains and sanitary fittings	18
,, premises re infectious diseases	8
,, tuberculous cases	2
,, respecting disinfection	4
,, cowsheds, dairies and milkshops	22
,, bakehouses	24
,, slaughterhouses	464
,, manure steads	3
,, factories	34
,, outworkers' premises	6
,, shops re Shops Acts	134
,, ,, re Meat Regulations	56
,, food inspection	165
,, offensive trades	—
Miscellaneous visits	89
Housing Acts	206
Caravans	18
Rodent Control	168
	1,791

COMPLAINTS

Nature of Complaint	Number Received
Choked passage drain	6
,, slopstone waste pipe	8
,, water closet	34
,, yard drain	4
Defective water closet basin	4
,, dust bin	63
,, wall and ceiling plaster	22
,, house roof	23
,, windows	12
,, kitchen sink	4
,, cooking range	6
,, floors	18
,, doors and frames	3
,, wash-houses and washing coppers .	4
,, yard surface	2
,, walls	18
,, gutters	64
,, drains	4
Dampness of house	46
Accumulation of refuse	3
Dirty house	4
General insanitary conditions	2
House infested with vermin	6
Nuisance from keeping animals	3
Accumulation of manure	2
Rat infested premises	43
Emission of smoke	10
Miscellaneous	34
	452

To secure the abatement of these defective conditions, 74 informal notices were served.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937—1961

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	12	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	104	22	4	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	118	34	4	—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	6	6	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total	6	6	—	—	—

Eight persons were returned as Outworkers under the Act, and these were engaged on wearing apparel. Visits were made and in each case the home conditions were considered suitable.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960.

There are twenty-three butchers' shops, six bakehouses and thirty-four food preparing premises in the Borough.

Routine visits have been made during the year and together with the requirements of the above Regulations and in the face of everyday competitive trading, purveyors of foodstuffs are gradually improving their premises.

DAIRY FARMS, DAIRIES, RETAIL PURVEYORS OF MILK

Cowkeepers	10
Dairies	4
Retail Purveyors	12

The Borough of Tamworth is included in a Specified Area and all dairymen who retail milk in the Borough must sell milk under special designation. The special designations authorised to be sold are "Pasteurised," "Sterilised" and "Tuberculin Tested."

All retailers obtain their supplies so treated and bottled from wholesalers outside the Borough.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

An employee of the Council is trained and engaged in part-time rodent control work.

One hundred and sixty-eight inspections were made and forty-three premises were found to be infested. The facilities provided by the Council were made available to the owners or occupiers and the infestations were successfully treated by pre-baiting and poisoning.

Half-yearly treatment of the sewers and periodical treatment of the Council's refuse disposal tip has been carried out.

SANITARY SUPERVISION OF PLACES OF AMUSEMENT

The cinema and other places of entertainment have been periodically inspected with regard to the sanitary accommodation.

The managements have been found anxious to maintain the conveniences in a satisfactory condition, and any defects found have at once been remedied.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924-1935

The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations Appointed Day—No. 2 Order, 1961.

The date fixed for the construction Regulations to apply to slaughterhouses in the Borough was the 1st July.

Of the five slaughterhouses two were brough up to the required standard and the remaining three were closed.

The Tamworth Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd., slaughterhouse is used by the other butchers.

The following animals have been killed:—

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1960	... 756	3	1,559	2,571
1961	... 738	11	1,804	2,464

Meat Condemned	Weight in lbs.
2 pig carcases—Septic Pleurisy and Peritonitis	190
	190
Organs:	
Cattle	635
Calves	—
Sheep	20
Pigs	873
	1,528
Other Foods	1,991
Total amount condemned	3,709

= 1 ton, 13 cwts. 13 lbs.

Carcases Slaughtered and Examined

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Cow/ Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
1960 Number killed	437	6	313	3	1559	2571
1961 Number killed	523	4	211	12	1804	2464
Number Inspected ...	523	4	211	12	1804	2464
Diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	41	—	15	—	7	74
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	7.8	—	7.1	—	.4	3.1
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	26
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ..	—	—	—	—	—	1.1
Cysticercus Bovis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Submitted to refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised & totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

I am, gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
H. BIRCHWOOD,
Senior Public Health Inspector.

The Tamworth Herald Co., Ltd., Printers.